

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
**FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**: DATE FILED: \_\_\_\_\_**

**v.**

**: CRIMINAL NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**RUSSELL BROWN**

**: VIOLATION: 18 U.S.C. § 666(a)(2)**  
**(bribery in connection with federal program**  
**funds - 1 count)**

**INDICTMENT**

**COUNT ONE**

**THE GRAND JURY CHARGES THAT:**

At all times material to this Information:

1. The City of Philadelphia Water Department was a department of the City of Philadelphia and served the Greater Philadelphia region by providing integrated water, wastewater, and storm water services. The Water Department's primary mission was to plan for, operate, and maintain both the infrastructure and the organization necessary to supply high-quality drinking water; to provide an adequate and reliable water supply for all household, commercial, and community needs; and to sustain and enhance the region's watersheds and quality of life by managing wastewater and storm water effectively.

2. The Water Department also was responsible for the issuance of required Water Service Permits to plumbers who did plumbing work in the City of Philadelphia at a cost of \$20 to \$320 for most of these permits, depending on the type of work to be performed.

3. The Department of Licenses and Inspections for the City of Philadelphia (sometimes referred to as “L & I”) was an agency whose primary function was to administer and enforce the City's code requirements, including the plumbing code and regulations. The City implemented and enforces the plumbing code to ensure the safety of the public.

4. The responsibilities of L & I included regulating the conduct of businesses and persons by issuing plumbing permits, by conducting inspections, and by enforcing applicable codes and regulations.

5. The Water Department and L & I were “organizations” which received annual benefits in excess of \$10,000 in each of the calendar years 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002 under federal programs involving grants, contracts, subsidies, loans, guarantees, and other forms of federal assistance, in connection with the provision of water service to citizens of the Greater Philadelphia area.

6. Defendant RUSSELL BROWN was a registered master plumber and was the owner of Russell Brown Plumbing and Heating, which was a business that performed plumbing work in the City of Philadelphia. BROWN was required to obtain Water Service Permits from the Water Department and from L & I to perform plumbing work on behalf of his business in the City of Philadelphia.

7. Kathleen Brooks, charged elsewhere, was employed by the Water Department since approximately July 3, 1989, in the position of Clerk Typist II. As such, she was its agent and was authorized to issue Water Service Permits on behalf of the Water

Department and on behalf of L & I to registered master plumbers for plumbing work to be done in the City of Philadelphia.

8. From on or about October 1, 1998, until on or about October 1, 2002, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, defendant

**RUSSELL BROWN**

corruptly gave, offered, and agreed to give, a thing of value, that is, approximately \$20,000 in kickback payments in return for water service permits valued at approximately \$41,704.00, to Kathleen Brooks, an agent of the City of Philadelphia Water Department and L & I, organizations which received benefits of over \$10,000 in a one-year period under a federal program involving a grant, contract, subsidy, loan, and other form of federal assistance, intending to influence and reward Kathleen Brooks in connection with a transaction and series of transactions of the Water Department and L & I involving \$5,000 or more.

In violation of Title 18 United States Code, Section 666(a)(2), and (b).

**NOTICE OF ADDITIONAL FACTORS**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:**

In committing the offense charged in this indictment, the defendant RUSSELL BROWN:

1. Committed an offense involving more than one bribe and extortion, as described in U.S.S.G. § 2C1.1(b)(1).
2. Committed an offense in which the value of the benefit received exceeded \$30,000, as described in U.S.S.G. § 2C1.1(b)(2)(A)(ii) and U.S.S.G. §2B1.1(b)(1)(D).

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**GRAND JURY FOREPERSON**

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**PATRICK L. MEEHAN**  
**United States Attorney**